

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method for partitioning code space in a communication system, comprising the steps of:

dividing a code space into at least two subspaces, where codes in the first subspace are assigned to at least one user at a time for a communication session and where all of the codes in the second subspaces are assigned to one user;

assigning a first code to a user currently using a second code in one subspace; and

performing an in-sector handoff of the user from the second code to the first code.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of assigning the second code to a different subspace.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the user is using the second code in the first subspace.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first subspace is used for voice communication.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the second subspace is used for data communication.

6. (Original) A method for partitioning code space in a communication system, comprising the steps of:

dividing a code space into at least two subspaces, where codes in the first subspace are assigned to at least one user at a time for a communication session and where all of the codes in the second subspaces are assigned to one user;

assigning a first code to a user currently using a second code in one subspace;

handing off the user from the second code to the first code; and

assigning the second code to a different subspace.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the user is using the second code in the first subspace.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the first subspace is used for voice communication.

9. (Original) The method of claim 6, where in the second subspace is used for data communication.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for partitioning code space in a communication system, comprising the steps of:

dividing a code space into at least two subspaces, where codes in the first subspace are assigned to at least one user at a time for a communication session and where all of the codes in the second subspaces are assigned to one of a plurality of users on a time shared basis;

assigning a first code to a user currently using a second code in one subspace;

handing off the user from the second code to the first code; and

assigning the second code to a different subspace.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the user is using the second code in the first subspace.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the first subspace is used for voice communication.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, where in the second subspace is used for data communication.

14. (Original) A method for partitioning code space in a communication system, comprising the steps of:

dividing a code space into at least two subspaces, where codes in the first subspace are assigned to at least one user at a time for a communication session and where all of the codes in the second subspaces are assigned to one of a plurality of users on a time shared basis;

assigning a first code to a user currently using a second code in one subspace; and

performing an in-sector handoff of the user from the second code to the first code.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of assigning the second code to a different subspace.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the user is using the second code in the first subspace.

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17. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the first subspace is used for voice communication.

18. (Original) The method of claim 14, where in the second subspace is used for data communication.

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